

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

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FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

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C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 2680

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IN, YO

SUBJECT: YUGOSLAV INTEREST IN NUCLEAR COOPERATION WITH

INDIA

1. THE FOLLOWING REPORT ON YUGOSLAV VICE PREMIER VRATUSA'S TRIP TO INDIA TO EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITIES OF COOPERATION IN NUCLEAR ENERGY WAS CARRIED FEBRUARY 14 ON THE OFFICIAL INFORMATION SERVICE OF INDIA WIRE:

QUOTE:

DR. VRATUSA TODL PTI BEFORE LEAVING DELHI ON A TOUR OF VARIOUS PLACES IN INDIA THAT EXPERTS FROM YUGOSLAVIA HAD VISITED INDIA AND HAD DISCUSSIONS WITH THEIR INDIAN COUNTERPARTS IN THIS RESPECT. HE HIMSELF HAD MET DR. SETHAN, CHAIRMAN OF THE ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION IN NEW DELHI. DR. SETHNA, HE SIAD, WAS LIKELY TO VISIT YUGOSLAVIA TO CONTINUE THEIR DISCUSSION. DR. VRATUSA WHO DURING HIS VISIT TO DELHI SIGNED AN AGREEMENT ON COOPERATION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES SAID THAT HE WAS VERY HAPPY WITH THE OUTCOME OF HIS VISIT. IT HAD FAR EXCEEDED EVEN HIS MOST OPTIMISTIC EXPECTATIONS. HE SAID THAT HIS VISIT HAD FURTHER STRENGTHENED COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO

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COUNTRIES IN VARIOUS FIELDS. DR. VRATUSA WAS HIGHLY IMPRESSED

BY THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF INDIA, A NONALIGNED DEVELOPING COUNTRY,
IN THE FIELD OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY. IN HIS VIEW OTHER
DEVELOPING COUNTIRES COULD DRAW UPON THIS EXPERIENCE OF INDIA
IN THIER DEVELOPMENT PROCESS. END QUOTE.

2. COMMENTING ON VRATUSA'S TRIP, A KNOWLEDGEABLE MINISTRY
OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OFFICIAL TOLD AN EMBASSY OFFICER ON
FEBRUARY 25 THAT THERE WAS SOME INTEREST MANIFESTED BY VRATUSA
AND OTHER SIMILAR VISITORS IN THE INDIAN PNE. THE SOURES SAID
THAT INDIANS HAD NOT SHOWN THESE VISITORS ANY SENSITIVE INSTAL-
LATIONS, OR GIVEN THEM ANY HELP OR ENCOURAGEMENT IN THE NUCLEAR
EXPLOSIVE AREA. FURTHERMORE, INDIA WOULD NOT DO SO IN THE
FUTURE. THE MEA OFFICIAL SAID IT WAS UNFORTUNATE THAT INDIA
COULD NOT MAKE A POBLIC STATEMENT TO THAT EFFECT, BUT THAT THE
INDIAN POLICY WOULD NEVERTHELESS CONTINUE TO DENY EXPLOSIVE
TECHNOLOGY TO OTHER PARTIES.

3. WE WOULD WELCOME ANY FURTHER INFORMATION BELGRADE MIGHT
HAVE ON VRATUSA'S MISSION.

4. A-76 COVERING OTHER ASPECTS OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE
MEETING FOLLOWS.
SCHNEIDER

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